

Water Use at ANU

In 2003 the ANU used over 600 million litres of water. This is the same as about 200 Olympic swimming pools! Nearly half of this was used in laboratories, a quarter in accommodation, 15% in irrigation and the rest in other buildings on campus.

Whilst the University has managed to reduce water use by over 100 million litres in the last few years the price of water is increasing dramatically so total water costs are still increasing. In a few years we are likely to spend more than \$1 million a year on water.



In most offices the majority of water is used in showers and toilets, with a lesser amount in sinks and appliances such as dishwashers.

How You Can Help



Report leaks—call x54000 to report any leaks in your building



Report concerns about water use to ANUgreen on x58794.

- Check your shower's efficiency—measure the flow in your shower; if it is greater than 9 litres per minute you can install a flow restrictor or new showerhead to save water (ask your Green Office Coordinator for details)
- Take shorter showers—an average shower is 12–15 L per minute, so cutting your shower by 5 minutes could save at least 60 L of water, if not more!
- Minimise water use where possible—eg if you have a dishwasher, only run it when it is full, conserve water in the laboratory by turning off the water when not required,
- Help promote water saving—email your colleagues a link to this page, or put up a poster.



Did you know?

Toad Hall is a residence on campus that accommodates 220 students. A water flow restriction system called 'Aqualoc' was installed in all the showers that reduced water flow from an average of 15 litres per minute to 9 litres per minute. This installation will save an estimated 3 million litres of water and 50,000 kWh of electricity from avoided hot water usage. Dollar savings amount to over \$7,000 per year for an outlay of \$5,200.